of announcements, which will have a favourable impact on industrial growth. These include setting up of National Manufacturing Competitiveness Council to suggest measures to enhance competitiveness in the manufacturing sector, the establishment of the Investment Commission to woo and facilitate both domestic and foreign businesses to invest in India and rationalisation of excise and customs duties.

Indo-China Trade

1168. SHRI MOOLCHAND MEENA:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REEDY:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India-China bilateral trade has touched $ 10 billion during the current year;

(b) if so, what was the trade during the year 2003-04;

(c) whether Government are considering to improve the trade with China further during 2004-05; and

(d) if so, the steps being considered in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Indo-China Bilateral Trade during 2003-04 amounted to US $7007.57 million (Provisional).

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Steps being taken, on an on-going basis, for increasing Indo-China Trade include, participation in trade fairs/ exhibitions, organizing buyer-seller meets, exchange of delegation at both Governmental and Business levels, exchange of information etc.

Flower export zones

1169. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH:
SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new deal for rural India would be extended to set up flower export zones at various parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and